



**A (LEGAL?) HIT FROM
THE BONG
MILEY VIDEO
LEAKED** {page 15}

**UNDER THE WEATHER
SNOW WREAKS
HAVOC ON NFL'S
WEEK 14** {page 22}



**SAVE THE DATE
KATE, WILL STRIKE
OFFICIAL POSE
SCENE** {page 11}



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Monday, December 13, 2010
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News worth sharing.



Christmas. Glee



► Twenty-month-old Payton Lawlor laughs as she runs around some Christmas trees yesterday at the Halifax & Region Military Family Resource Centre.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

All signs point to done deal

► Province, HRM to hold press conference regarding convention centre ► No word yet on federal funding ► Jan. 14 deadline for public-funding decision looms



ALEX BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

After nearly two months of at-times heated negotiations, the province and HRM appear to have reached an agreement on funding the proposed downtown convention centre.

Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal Minister Bill Estabrooks will attend a press conference with Mayor Peter Kelly this morning.

Estabrooks said he couldn't comment on the specifics but did note that it "looks like things are beginning to fall in place."

"There's finally been some positive developments, and the movement is continuing," said Estabrooks, reached by phone yesterday.

"I'm looking forward to taking some very progressive steps very quickly when it comes to the convention centre."

Estabrooks said he took part in a conference call concerning the convention centre Friday evening. Earlier that day, Halifax regional council held a four-hour in-camera session to discuss the ongoing negotiations

"As we run up to Christmas, there's a lot of commitments and everybody's very busy. But (today) is going to be a positive event, hopefully. It will be a good day and a good week."

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL
MINISTER BILL ESTABROOKS

on funding models for the proposed facility.

"We went from around 2:30 to around 6:30 ... a lot of discussion, a lot of debate," Kelly said yesterday.

"Hopefully, we are close to completing the negotiations and finding a way to move this project forward."

If the province and the municipality have indeed reached a compromise, the final step would be convincing the federal government to chip in the final \$46 million for the \$159-million centre.

Estabrooks acknowledged the timing is tight but said he remains confident a deal can be achieved before the deadline.

A token of their appreciation

Local families of Canadian Forces members deployed overseas received free Christmas trees from the Canadian Christmas Tree Growers Association at an event yesterday. Payton's grandfather Kevin Lawlor is currently serving in Sudan. Story, page 4.

State-of-services report on deck

HRM staff to report on effects of May's budget cuts {page 3}

Mooseheads' slump continues

Herd take 45 shots on goal, still lose to Sea Dogs {page 21}

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Impact report to be discussed

► Tax hike should be off the table as municipality seeks ways to balance the books: Kelly



ALEX
BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

Halifax regional council is set to receive a report on the impact of last May's budget cuts on municipal services.

Council has set aside three days, beginning this morning, to hear from staff on how across-the-board cuts have impacted HRM's ability to deliver services.

The briefing is also meant to inform future budgetary discussions.

The report's briefing states the effects of the cuts, enacted to balance the 2010-11 operating budget, are beginning to be felt.

"Seven months of this fiscal year have passed and the service implications are becoming more apparent," it reads.

"In general, staff has managed to maintain services at an acceptable level, although this has not come without a cost."

Finance staff originally delivered the report Nov. 23, but council voted to defer the issue for more study.

At the time, Coun. Steve Streach said the

"If we can find a way to find greater efficiencies and optimize some other opportunities in cutting costs ... then we need to look at those areas."

MAYOR PETER KELLY

presentation didn't go far enough.

"We've got to make some really serious and painful decisions over the next little while and I really think we have to take a little more time and reflect," Streach said.

One slide on the staff presentation reads "We have hit the wall: Cut services or increase taxes."

But Mayor Peter Kelly says he doesn't think a tax increase should be on the table.

"I still hold that there should be no tax rate increase," he said yesterday.

Read the report briefing by going to halifax.ca/council/ then clicking on 2010 Council Agendas and Reports and then Dec. 13.



► Mayor Peter Kelly goes for a ride on the inaugural run for a new hybrid bus in this file photo from March.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

More Monday blahs weather-wise

It looks like we have another wet and wild Monday on our hands.

Environment Canada issued a wind warning for various parts of Nova Scotia yesterday, including all of the Halifax Regional Municipality, with gusts of up to 90 kilometres per hour expected.

"This is a warning that potentially damaging winds are expected in these regions," the Envi-

ronment Canada warning read.

Periods of rain are also expected today — and will continue through tomorrow.

Environment Canada says the mild weather storm is the same lower pressure system that brought a fair amount of snow to parts of Ontario and Quebec over the weekend.

● METRO

Rain and wind

- This could be the second big rain and wind storm to hit the province in as many Mondays.
- Winds strong enough to blow a chimney off a house on Highway 7 struck the area last Monday, with rain and wind gusts of up to 100 km/h.
- More than 30,000 people lost power.

News in brief

Death ruled a homicide

CAPE BRETON. RCMP say the death of an 82-year-old Cape Breton man has been ruled a homicide.

Police found Angus MacLean dead in his home in the Colindale area Wednesday night after responding to a 911 call.

At the time, they said the man's death was suspicious in nature.

RCMP say an autopsy was conducted Friday in Halifax, but the cause of death will not be released because of the ongoing investigation.

investigation.

Investigators are looking to speak with anyone who had contact with or saw MacLean in the days leading up to his body being found.

Search on for missing man

SYDNEY. Cape Breton Regional Police is requesting the public's help in locating a missing Sydney man. Mark Ryan Pentacost, 25, was last seen Dec. 5 before leaving his residence. He was reported missing Thursday.

Pentacost is described as being five-foot-eight, about 200 pounds and having blondish hair.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

1
news



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► Derrick Renzelli and Destiny, 8, carry a Christmas tree from the Halifax & Region Military Family Resource Centre yesterday.

First Christmas without daddy

► Approximately 150 Christmas trees given to military families across the province ► 3,000 donated in Canada



ALEX BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

This will be the first Christmas in the Dixon household without father Tom.

Tom has been in Afghanistan since October, leaving wife A.J. and their children home in Halifax until April or May.

"He's missing his youngest son's first Christmas," said the mother of four kids, aged four months to eight years.

"He's missing a lot."

The Dixons were the first

"I think he is kinda brave."

BRAYDEN DIXON, 8,
ON HIS FATHER TOM
SERVING IN AFGHANISTAN

family to receive a tree from the Canadian Christmas Tree Growers Association, who were on hand at the Halifax and Region Military Family Resource Centre yesterday.

Each year, the Tree Growers Association donates thousands of trees to military families nationwide.

"We're just showing our support and our commitment to our family's troops," said Myles MacPherson, president of the Tree Growers Association.

"And certainly we get warm responses. We get the most beautiful emails and letters of appreciation. You know, it makes you feel great.

As for A.J., she said she appreciates the gesture.

"It's nice to know there are people who recognize the military community outside the military community," she said.

Leaked files lead to veterans' privacy probe

The Department of Defence has launched an investigation after a former member of the Canadian Forces found sensitive health and personal information about other military personnel in his medical file.

Wayne Finn said he was stunned to discover everything from other service members' social insurance numbers, blood test results, X-ray reports to dates of birth mixed in with his military medical file.

The 49-year-old Nova Scotia man said he still has information referring to about 20 people in his file, even after returning the files of eight others to the base in Halifax where he was serving.

"What shocked me as I was going through it was finding all these different people on my file — I



► Stephen Harper

didn't want to read them because I thought it was being nosy and it's none of my business what's wrong with them," he told The Canadian Press last week.

"It's just ridiculous that all this information is misfiled, that I have all these guys' information — I shouldn't have it."

The accusation comes a

Review

► Peter Stoffer, the NDP's veterans affairs critic, has asked the commissioner to review Wayne Finn's privacy concerns after the 30-year veteran outlined his case to him a couple of months ago.

month after Veterans Affairs Minister Jean-Pierre Blackburn issued an apology to Sean Bruyey, a former intelligence officer whose medical information was shared widely in the department.

Finn, who served as a busun on a variety of supply ships, asked the privacy commissioner a year ago to look into the apparent security breach, but said he has received no indication from the commissioner's office they are pursuing the complaint. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Labour reform dominates legislature

The fall session of the Nova Scotia legislature concluded last week after a raucous debate over labour reform legislation.

Premier Darrell Dexter found himself at the centre of a brewing controversy during the final days of the session that strained relations with the province's private sector.

Officially, the legislature ended Friday.

Businesses voiced opposition to a bill that they

Tans banned

► The government also passed legislation that bans people under 19 years of age from using tanning beds and a bill that indefinitely extends a moratorium on oil and gas exploration on Georges Bank.

said unfairly favoured public sector unions.

After initially defending the legislation, the NDP premier later accepted some proposed amendments from the private sector.

Among other measures, the bill will result in the creation of a labour management review committee. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

61-year-old faces child sex charges

Halifax RCMP say a 61-year-old Lower Sackville man faces sex-related charges involving children.

Gordon Arthur Gallie is accused of sexual assault, sexual interference and invitation to sexual touching.


Police say the two alleged victims are under the age of 16 and the incidents are alleged to have occurred between June 2009 and September 2010.

Police say they carried out a search warrant and seized several items, including alleged pornographic images of children. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



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RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



► A forensic identification officer looks at a bullet hole at the house outside of which shooting victim Timothy John Kelly was found one year ago.

Police still seek info in year-old shooting death

► No arrests have been made in homicide ► Victim was known to police ► 'He was a good man': Co-worker

PHILIP CROUCHER
@METRONEWS.CA

Police are asking anyone with information regarding the murder of Timothy John Kelly to come forward.

It was one year ago yesterday the partially clad 44-year-old was found lying on the ground by a passerby in a west-end Halifax neighbourhood.

Police were called to 7051 Abbott St. near the Halifax Shopping Centre shortly after 10 p.m. on Dec. 12. Kelly was found lying on the ground suffering



► Timothy John Kelly

from multiple wounds, reportedly on the sidewalk in front of the home.

He was taken to hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Two days after the killing, police revealed he was gunned down, and that there were no suspects or

known motive for the shooting.

The Halifax Regional Police/RCMP Integrated Major Crime Unit continues to investigate the homicide, a police release states.

Kelly was a mixed martial artist who trained at Team Titans Halifax. He had a record of 2-5, according to sherdog.com. Kelly also worked as a used car salesman at Sackville Fine Cars on Sackville Dr.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Major Crime Unit at 490-5333 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

THREE DEATHS

Charges laid in murders

RCMP say a man faces several charges including murder, as police continue to investigate three homicides in Nova Scotia, including the death of a former biker gang member. Police say Les Greenwood is charged with accessory after the fact to murder in the death of former Hells Angel Randy Mersereau, 48, who

hasn't been seen since October 1999.

The 41-year-old Greenwood is also charged with the attempted murder of Mersereau in connection with the bombing of a car dealership in Bible Hill, prior to his disappearance.

The Mounties say Greenwood is also facing two counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of Barry Mersereau and Nancy Christensen.

Christensen and Barry Mersereau were found dead in their home located in Centre Burlington on Sept. 10, 2000.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Two face child porn charges

Police say two Bedford men are scheduled to appear in court Jan. 31 to face child-pornography charges. The men were arrested Thursday at a residence on Dartmouth Road in Bedford. A search resulted in the seizure of computer equipment.

Police say 49-year-old Craig Ward and 44-year-old Timothy Budden both face charges of accessing and possessing child pornography. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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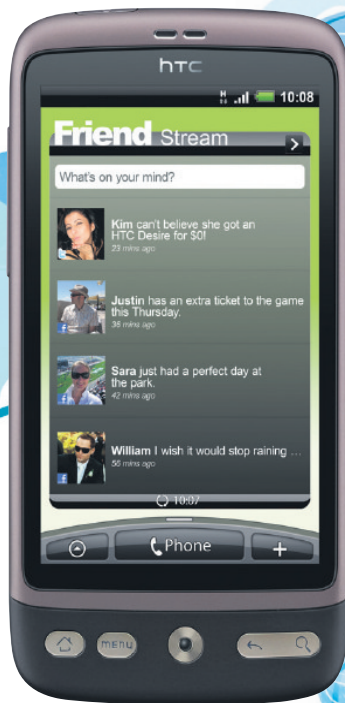
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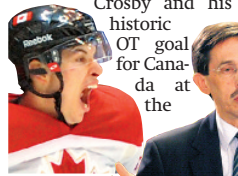
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Who is 2010's top newsmaker?

Was 2010 the year of Sidney Crosby and his historic OT goal for Canada at the



Olympics, or does Nova Scotia Auditor General Jacques Lapointe get the nod for exposing the MLA ex-



pense scandal? Maybe it was all about Peter Kelly in 2010, or does actress Ellen Page take the cake — in part — for putting up a stink over biosolids.

Let us know who your Halifax newsmaker of the year is. Who do you think had the most

exposure in the city in 2010?



Darrell Dexter do it for you, or does MP Peter Stoffer and his flip-flop on the gun registry stand out most?

It's time for you to decide. Tell us who rocked your 2010 by emailing your Halifax newsmaker of the year to

halifaxletters@metronews.ca or on Twitter @metro-halifax. Voting ends tomorrow.



Feds plan to dredge Sydney harbour, boost economy

The federal government will spend \$19 million over the next three months to dredge the Sydney harbour in an effort to strengthen Cape Breton's economy, Prime Minister Stephen Harper said Friday.

The port city has plans to develop a \$200-million container terminal, which will require a deeper harbour channel to allow passage of larger ships.

"Before Sydney and all of Cape Breton can have a stronger role in the modern, globalized economy, we need to make some improvements," Harper said.

"The access channel must be deeper to get the

Dig deep

The dredging will make the channel into the harbour 17 metres deeper.

larger ships into Sydney. By dredging Sydney harbour, we can unlock Cape Breton's true economic potential."

The Sydney Marine Group — the main proponent of the project — estimates the digging will cost \$38 million.

In June, the Nova Scotia government committed to contributing \$15.2 million, and the Cape Breton Regional Municipality agreed in May to spend \$2 million.

But Bill Black, a former Nova Scotia Conservative leadership candidate, has suggested the business case for a terminal has not been made. He said the demand may not be there for another container terminal, particularly since the Port of Halifax is operating well below capacity.

AMHERST DAILY NEWS

Residents forced out by three separate fires

Eight people were forced from their homes Saturday after three separate fires.

The Red Cross says a man in his early 20s lost his home when an early morning fire broke out in Pugwash Junction, about 60 kilometres east of Amherst.

Pugwash fire Chief Andy Yarrow says the blaze started around a wood stove in the small bungalow.

In the Annapolis Valley, a midday fire forced three people from a home in Maitland Bridge.

There's no word on the cause, which destroyed the older, wooden-frame house.

A third fire forced four people, including a child, from their apartment in Edmundston, N.B.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Arrest made in connection to 2 blazes

Cape Breton Regional Police have arrested a 44-year-old Glace Bay area man after two suspicious fires were reported in Whitney Pier near Sydney.

Police and firefighters were called to a home on Borden Street at 4 a.m. on Saturday morning.

Two motor vehicles were found set ablaze near the residence. After an investigation by the major crime unit and an arson investigator, police arrested Robert Joseph Gill.

Gill was remanded to the Cape Breton Correctional Centre where he will be facing charges of arson and property damage.

The accused is expected to make a court appearance today.

CAPE BRETON POST

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Charity scams hurt the taxman

► Charitable donation tax-receipt system open to abuse: CRA docs
► Preparation fraud widespread

The Canada Revenue Agency is considering big changes to the way charities issue donation receipts after internal probes found widespread scamming, newly disclosed documents show.

Standard paper receipts now issued by charities are too easily faked, forged or fished, cheating the federal treasury out of millions in taxes.

So some agency officials are proposing tougher rules requiring charities to electronically track and account for their receipts, to help the taxman flush out fraudsters.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Receipt revamp

The current receipt system is described as a "weakness."

- A spokesman for the agency declined to provide details of any changes being considered.
- One issue facing the agency is that many charities are small and poorly staffed, making an electronic filing regime a daunting prospect, says the internal paper.
- The agency said that 85 tax-preparer cases are currently being investigated, 31 of them involving alleged charity fraud.

Metrodome. Touches down



► The collapsed roof of the Metrodome is shown in this aerial view. The inflatable roof gave way yesterday after a snowstorm that dumped 17 inches on Minneapolis.

ANN HEISENFELT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Snow downs dome

The Minnesota Vikings' NFL football game last night against the New York Giants had already been pushed to today because the Minneapolis airport is closed.

Swedes horrified by suicide bombing

No one died except the suspected bomber, but two explosions in Sweden's capital tore at the fabric of this tolerant and open nation — a society that hadn't seen a terrorist attack in more than three decades.

Two people were wounded in central Stockholm on Saturday in what appeared to be the first suicide bombing in the history of Sweden, which has been spared the major terrorist strikes seen in other European countries.

A car exploded in the middle of the seasonal shopping frenzy, shooting flames and causing several smaller blasts as people ran screaming from the scene.

The blast that killed the alleged bomber came moments later a few blocks away on a busy pedestrian street.

Experts said the alleged bomber probably didn't succeed in detonating all the explosives and could have caused much greater damage. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sudan investigates flogging

Sudan's judiciary opened an investigation into a video of a woman being flogged that has been widely circulated on the Internet, the state news agency reported yesterday.

The video shows a woman in a voluminous

40 In 2009, Sudanese journalist Lubna Hussein was sentenced to 40 lashes under the country's controversial indecency law for appearing in public wearing trousers.

cloak on her knees screaming and pleading with blue-uniformed policemen, identified as Sudanese, who take turns whipping her. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

10 people hurt in Vancouver gang shooting

An apparent lull in Vancouver's gang violence was shattered early yesterday after a shooting that wounded 10 people and awoke residents to the sounds of gunfire.

Investigators were quick to label the shooting gang-related, but police haven't confirmed whether any of the victims were simply innocent bystanders caught up in the violence.

Vancouver police said shots rang out around 2 a.m. along a busy street that cuts through residential areas in the middle of the city.

When officers arrived, they found victims scattered across several city blocks.

"We're characterizing this as an outrageous display of gang violence," Const. Jana McGuinness said in an interview.

"This was in a public place — really, anyone on the street may have been caught up in this. At this early stage, we still don't know if some of them were innocents."

Six men and three women were in hospital, two of them critical. A 10th victim refused treatment.

At least five people were in custody, although McGuinness said that number could change. She said investigators were waiting to interview the shooting victims.

Richard Bruin, who lives along the street where the shooting took place, said his sleep was interrupted by gun shots. "Rat tat tat tat, and then a burst of more gunfire, people screaming," said Bruin. "My neighbour heard the gunshots and ran outside, he saw a couple of people running away."

Bruin said he's used to

"constantly" hearing about shootings in the Vancouver area, but not where he lives.

"Too close to home," said Bruin. "There's a gangland problem in Vancouver ... but this neighbourhood, rarely ever has anything happened. This is blowing everybody's minds."

"We know of these incidents in the last few months that have cropped up again. We've had a lull in Vancouver especially in 2010, compared to '09, and we have to remain vigilant," said McGuinness.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Violence flares

2010 has been a relatively quiet year for gang violence, especially compared to the gang war that raged throughout the Lower Mainland last year.

- The violence appeared to calm during much the past year, but there have been several incidents in recent months that have police on edge. They include the targeted murder of a gangster at a busy Burnaby, B.C., mall in October.

- Also in October, Vancouver police warned of potential gang violence over the Halloween weekend. There was indeed a shooting that weekend outside a nightclub in Vancouver's trendy Gastown district, injuring four people, although police later said it wasn't linked to gangs.

- Last week, the RCMP issued a news release warning of "an increase in gang tensions and instability" in the region.

News in brief

U of Alberta fraternity suspended

EDMONTON. A fraternity at the University of Alberta has been "provisionally suspended" by its parent organization for three years.

It follows allegations of hazing of prospective members, which include claims they were forced

to eat their own vomit. Delta Kappa Epsilon's website states the move follows a visit to the local chapter last month by a committee of four alumni.

The committee recommended an action plan that includes the suspension.

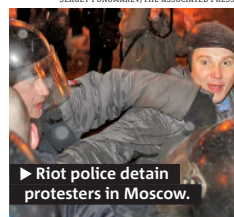
It says Delta Kappa Epsilon International will appoint an alumni council that will oversee all of the local chapter's affairs.

The University of Alberta announced its own investigation in October.

3 rallies point to tensions

Hundreds of people protested against the Russian government yesterday at two separate rallies in Moscow, with opposition activists calling for the resignation of Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and nationalists demanding greater rights for ethnic Russians. Several opposition activists were detained. A third rally with

SERGEY PONOMAREV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Riot police detain protesters in Moscow.

nationalist overtones drew more than 1,000 students in the southern city of Rostov-on-Don, raising fears that long-standing ethnic tensions were reaching a boiling point.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blast kills eight at NATO-Afghan base

An explosives-packed minibus blew up at the entrance of a joint NATO-Afghan base in southern Afghanistan yesterday, killing six NATO troops and two Afghan soldiers as they prepared to head out on patrol.

NATO has claimed improvements in security after months of raids,

patrols and strikes on insurgents in Kandahar province, but yesterday's blast — the deadliest attack on coalition troops this month — shows the area is still far from safe.

The assault comes days ahead of a major White House review of its Afghan strategy.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Putin. On board



► Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and Finnish President Tarja Halonen chat in the Allegro train at the railway station in Vyborg, Russia, some 160 kilometres west of St. Petersburg yesterday.

EU, Russia hook up at high speed

Finnish President Tarja Halonen and Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin inaugurated the first high-speed rail link between the EU and Russia as new trains start running between Helsinki and St. Petersburg, shortening travel time by nearly half, boosting business travel and tourism.

BlackBerry maker holds high hopes for PlayBook

► RIM's revenue estimated at \$5.5 billion for third-quarter and earnings per share at \$1.68, says RBC Capital Markets analyst Mike Abramsky

For Research In Motion, the future is all about PlayBook, the BlackBerry maker's answer to Apple's iPad, and whether it can help rejuvenate the smartphone company.

Research In Motion is expected to report strong results on Thursday, driven by international growth and improved sales in the North American market.

But, inevitably, the launch of the PlayBook early next year will be intrinsic to RIM's success in the new year and will be front and centre in any predictions made about its prospects.

"If they can lever the tablet to get back into the



► RIM's Mike Lazaridis.

high end of the smartphone business, then the numbers are going to go up," telecom analyst Matthew Robison said.

The PlayBook is aimed at business users and will be used tethered to a BlackBerry, providing the same level of security for information on the tablet.

RIM is also expected to debut a brand new operating system for its tablet that will be used in future smartphones.

"It has the potent of really invigorating the market for RIM products," said Robison of Wunderlich Securities Inc. in San Francisco.

If the PlayBook performs in the field as well as the demos and paper specifications suggest, then it will be a strong multimedia device that will also attract a lot of

consumer interest, Robison said.

He said if RIM doesn't execute on the PlayBook, the company will likely at least hold its own and grow moderately in the coming years.

Analysts expect the new BlackBerry Torch, which has both a touchscreen and slideout keyboard, will have helped to increase North American sales.

"We believe North America was better than many expect, with aggressive promotions by AT&T and Verizon for the holidays," BMO Capital Markets analyst Tim Long said in a research note.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada, Europe talk trade

A controversial NAFTA provision that allows corporations to seek compensation from governments is likely to be included in any eventual free-trade deal with Europe, say sources close to the negotiations.

Representatives from Canada and Europe are scheduled to meet in Ottawa this week to prepare for the next round of negotiations aimed at finalizing a wide-reaching economic and trade agreement by the end of 2011.

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- and -

IN THE MATTER OF: The application of MJP Consulting Inc. for a Leave to Surrender its Certificate of Incorporation.

NOTICE

MJP Consulting Inc. hereby gives notice pursuant to the provisions of Section 137 of the Companies Act that it intends to make application to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies of the Province of Nova Scotia for leave to surrender its Certificate of Incorporation.

DATED at Halifax, Halifax Regional Municipality, Province of Nova Scotia, this 13th day of December, 2010.

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STILL SOME LABOUR PAINS FOR BILL 100

Urban Compass

STEPHEN KIMBER



So here's my question. Who speaks for workers in the 82 per cent of Nova Scotia businesses whose employees are not represented by a union?

ask this in light of the recent foofarah over Bill 100, the innocuous-sounding Act to Establish a Unified Labour Board.

The Dexter government claimed it was merely tinkering — merging a bunch of labour boards, creating a labour management review committee to advise on legislation, clarifying long-standing policy regarding union successor rights when government operations are privatized, making the act's preamble conform to what's been in the Canada Labour Code since

1972.

Yawn. Nova Scotia's non-union employers, on the other hand, saw socialist Armageddon writ large in invisible ink behind the bill's bland but — cue the ominous music — “complicated legal wording.”

They were so concerned, in fact, 19 of our most powerful, best-heeled business organizations banded together to fight the power. They wrote an open letter to the premier demanding sections of the bill be scrapped. They cosied up to the opposition, encouraging their filibuster. They even wangled an hour-long face-to-face

with Labour Minister Marilyn More to plead their case.

In the end, they got most of what they had demanded, including the right to be consulted in discussions on changes to labour legislation.

“Their interests ... sure as hell won't get represented by some bleeding-wallet private-sector employer.”

We probably don't need to lose sleep over whether deep-pocketed business groups will be able to make their voices heard — with or without these amendments.

But what about minimum-wage workers? Contract employees? Shop clerks? Telemarketers? Apple pickers? The least powerful among the 70 per cent of workers not represented by

unions. Their interests — a living wage, reasonable hours, jobs with benefits, protection from arbitrary employer action — sure as hell won't get represented by some bleeding-wallet private-sector employer.

The opposition parties? “If business is happy,” Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil summed up during last week's legislative dust-up, “we'll help move this bill forward.”

No comfort there. Trade unions, once the vanguard of championing all workers' rights, are under siege and in retreat. Too often, they seem more concerned with hanging on to existing entitlements than in extending benefits to the unorganized.

So who will speak for the interests of workers not in unions? That's still my question.

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER
metro



Extreme-sized creatures

Worth mentioning

Fossils of a giant stork have been discovered on a far-flung Indonesian island that has been home to many extreme-sized creatures — from tiny human-like “hobbits” and dwarf elephants to the world's largest-known rats and lizards.

Authors Hanneke Meijer and Rokus Due wrote in the December issue of the Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society that leg bones from the marabou stork, which lived 20,000 to 50,000 years ago, indicate it stood around six feet tall and weighed up to 35 pounds.

The bones were found during excavations of the

Look what the stork brought



Liang Bua cave in the west of the island of Flores at a depth of around 15 feet.

Flores, located on Indonesia's eastern edge, has never been connected to another island or mainland, shaping evolution of historic wildlife, with many small-sized warm blooded animals growing larger than elsewhere on the planet, and big-sized

mammals becoming more diminutive, said Colin Groves, a professor at Australian National University who was not related to the study, citing the so-called “island rule” in biology.

With no mammalian carnivores, birds and reptiles faced less competition for food, accounting for some of their massive size.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Who is Canada's athlete of the year for 2010? Why?

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Metro Minute at Lego display

Looking to spend some time with the family other than at a mall these days? Then take everyone to the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic for a very cool display titled Lego: City By The Sea.

These popular, colourful interlocking plastic bricks are everywhere as the Lego display covers more than 250 square feet, featuring

both world landmarks and well-known stars from TV and movies. They include Harry Potter, Count Dracula and SpongeBob SquarePants.

The exhibit opened Dec. 7 and will continue through to the end of the holidays, with the museum open each day except Monday. For more details, call 424-7490. ● METRO



► The Maritime Museum of the Atlantic is hosting Lego: City By The Sea.

Portrait of a prince with his 'princess'

► William and Kate pose for official photos to celebrate engagement
► Same photographer took photos of Diana just before she died

Prince William and Kate Middleton look relaxed, poised and very much in love in official photos released to mark their engagement.

One of the two images by Mario Testino shows the couple, dressed in jeans and casual tops, smiling in each others' arms. The other, more formal, depicts them standing together in a state room at St. James's Palace.

The pictures, released yesterday by the prince's office, were taken by fashion photographer Testino, a royal family favourite who captured some of the most iconic images of William's late mother, Princess Diana.

Testino said the couple

appeared "in their prime and brimming with happiness" when he photographed them on Nov. 25.

"I have never felt so much joy as when I see them together," he said.

The Peruvian photographer, who made his name shooting models like Kate Moss, took a series of glamorous black-and-white images of Diana that were published in Vanity Fair in 1997, shortly before her death in a Paris car crash.

William and Middleton, both 28, announced last month that they will marry on April 29 at Westminster Abbey in London.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► The two official portrait photographs taken on Nov. 25, 2010 in the Council Chamber in the State Apartment in St James's Palace, London and released by Clarence House Press Office yesterday to mark the engagement of Britain's Prince William, left, and Catherine Middleton.



News in brief



Performers in two overseas crime dramas won supporting-actor honours from the Los Angeles Film Critics Association, while the Facebook tale The Social Network earned two prizes yesterday. Jacki Weaver was named best supporting actress for Australia's Animal Kingdom. Niles Arestrup won for supporting actor for a Prophet. Aaron Sorkin won best screenplay for The Social Network, whose composers Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross shared the award for best musical score with Alexandre Desplat for The Ghost Writer.

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David Hasselhoff's reality show, The Hasselhoffs was cancelled after just two episodes aired

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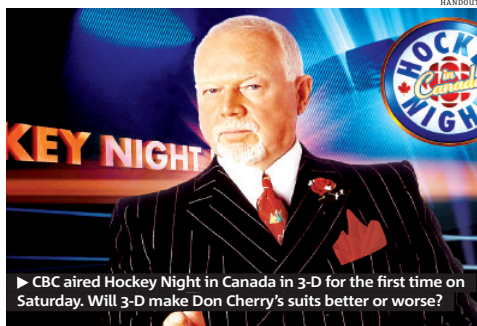
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► CBC aired Hockey Night in Canada in 3-D for the first time on Saturday. Will 3-D make Don Cherry's suits better or worse?

3-D hockey needs some work

Saturday marked CBC's first foray into 3-D for Hockey Night in Canada — and unfortunately, it showed.

The Canadian Press reviewed the game with a new 3-D TV on loan from Panasonic, the sponsor of the inaugural 3-D hockey broadcast, and after several days of watching all kinds of different content and

seeing how cool 3-D can look, Hockey Night in Canada was a bit disappointing.

The broadcast had its moments and the potential for using 3-D in future games was clear, but the quality of presentation was far from perfect. And CBC's nonstop shilling for the technology made it feel like an infomercial for

3-D with hockey squeezed in.

Ron MacLean was quoted as saying he thinks 3-D will have 10 times the impact high definition did, and Kelly Hrudey kicked off the show by saying, "It is the wave of the future; it's not a gimmick."

It would be one thing if the breathless gushing about the technology stopped when the puck dropped but it went on all night long, even while play was on.

And it was a bit comical to see the on-air talent keep their glasses on for the entire broadcast as if to say to the audience, "We know you're stuck wearing them so we will too."

Hopefully by the time CBC's next 3-D broadcast rolls around — on Feb. 20, when the Calgary Flames host the Montreal Canadiens for the outdoor Heritage Classic from McMahon Stadium — they'll just let the technology speak for itself.

Hockey fans thinking they might want to get in on the next 3-D game should know what to expect. Watching a game in 3-D isn't about sensing that pucks are coming through the screen — although you might get that feeling if a puck were to be shot straight at the camera. The real experience is the enhanced sense of depth that makes it feel like you can see deep into the screen, like looking out a window, or actually sitting in the stands at the arena.

During scrambles in front of the net there's a better sense of how players jam the outside of the crease and battle for space. The referees also had a knack for getting in the way of the shot, which actually just added to the 3-D effect.

Shots from cameras positioned along the glass give an impressive view that competes with sitting rinkside. But it's not necessarily the best angle to actually follow the action — as cool as it is to see — and CBC was guilty a few times

Game time

► **Leafs win.** The game itself ended up in a 3-1 victory for the Toronto Maple Leafs over their rivals the Montreal Canadiens.

► **Fans show up.** Announced attendance for the game was 19,656 — the largest crowd at Air Canada Centre this year.

of lingering too long with angles that showed off the 3-D effect but didn't follow the play well.

For that reason, it may just be that replays are better suited to those really cool angles that maximize the 3-D effect.

CBC also had a few other nagging problems that will hopefully be addressed in future broadcasts, like distracting glare and reflections off the sideboard glass, and focus issues that made 3-D-endured headaches feel even worse.

And while CBC did a nice job of putting its on-screen graphics in 3-D, the effect was actually too good for the game clock and scoreboard, which sat too far in the foreground and were distracting.

In fairness, it was CBC's first attempt at delivering a game in 3-D, and putting on a live production will inevitably have its fair share of glitches. CBC has some time to figure out how to improve the broadcast for the Heritage Classic, and because it's an outdoor game, there will be more control over camera placement and getting the right angles to maximize the 3-D effect.

Next time they should leave the excessive 3D talk to the pre-game show, or at least intermissions. And no need for a pre-game skit, like the one on Saturday night starring Gordon Pinsent as "the professor" of 3-D. Someone should've told the writers that even though a Justin Bieber joke may have seemed obligatory, it probably fell flat with the hockey-loving audience.

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Narnia tops weak box office

The latest chapter in The Chronicles of Narnia saga has sailed to the top of the weekend box office, though the franchise is floundering with a weak debut compared to the first two movies.

The Voyage of the Dawn Treader took in \$24.5 million. That's a huge drop from 2005's The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe with \$65.6 million and

2008's Prince Caspian with \$55 million.

Johnny Depp and Angelina Jolie's romantic thriller The Tourist opened in second-place with \$17 million. The film features Jolie as an Englishwoman who picks up a mild-mannered American (Depp) on a train in Europe as a diversion while she's on the run from cops and gangsters.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cyrus caught on tape smoking bong

Miley Cyrus is growing up fast, as a leaked video of the Disney star smoking a bong proves.

Sources tell TMZ Cyrus is smoking the legal psychedelic herb salvia in the video, which was shot by one of her friends.

"I'm having a little bit of a bad trip," Cyrus says in the video before devolving into a fit of laughter.

The video was reportedly shot at a party at Cyrus' house five days after her 18th birthday.

● METRO



► Miley Cyrus

Friend outs Travolta?

Actress Carrie Fisher is calling John Travolta out on threatening to sue Gawker.com for publishing reports that he takes part in clandestine same-sex encounters.

"We don't really care that John Travolta is gay," Fisher told the Advocate in an earlier interview.

When asked about Travolta's response to the Gawker posts, she said, "Look, I'm sorry that he's uncomfortable with it, and that's all I can say."

"It only draws more attention to it when you make that kind of legal fuss. Just leave it be."

● METRO



► John Travolta



► Nicole Richie and Joel Madden were married over the weekend.

Richie & Madden make it official

► The celeb couple was married over the weekend

After four years together — and two children — Nicole Richie and Joel Madden tied the knot this weekend at Lionel Richie's home in Los Angeles, according to People magazine.

"They wanted an Old Hollywood, glamorous feel to their wedding," a source says. "Nicole wanted a memorable, elegant affair for only their closest friends and family on their special day."

Richie reportedly managed to get bids for exclusive photos of the wedding up to \$100,000 by "playing the weekly magazines against each other," a source tells Page Six.

● METRO

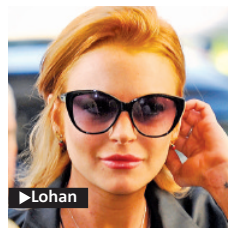
Lohan puts her foot down

Lindsay Lohan reportedly didn't appreciate having to pay up for extra security at the Betty Ford Center, according to TMZ.

Sources say the clinic was charging Lohan \$500 a day for additional guards,

although Lohan complained that the hired muscle wasn't showing up on time for work.

After some discussion, the clinic is reportedly no longer charging her for security. ● METRO



► Lohan

Celebrity tweets

Ryan Seacrest
[@RyanSeacrest]
There's something about a sunny 90 degrees in LA that screams xmas

Kelly Osbourne
[@MissKellyO]
"oh my god your so much prettier in real life" is not a compliment when you have the face of smelling something bad!!!

Elizabeth Banks
[@ElizabethBanks]
Nothing worse than going for the shake, getting the "we're closer than that!" look followed by uncomfortable hug.

Talking points

Ryder's tech illiteracy

Winona Ryder insists she's far from tech-savvy.

"I don't use the Internet ..." she tells Elle magazine.

"I have my email on my BlackBerry, and that's about it. I've never read a blog, ever."

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3 life

The connection



Jaden & Willow Smith: kids of Will Smith & Jada Pinkett Smith



Chloe Moretz: Willow & Chloe were both nominated in an acting category at the 2008 Young Artist Awards – and neither won



Kodi Smit-McPhee: Chloe stars alongside Kodi in this autumn's horror flick Let Me In



Callan McAuliffe: Both Kodi & Callan are famous young actors from Australia



From point-and-shoot to high-end digital SLR cameras, here's a selection that stands out from the crowd.

2030: A futuristic forecast



ELISABETH BRAW

METRO WORLD NEWS

Twenty years ago, nobody would have imagined smartphones, Facebook or even Google. Are we better at predicting the future today? Metro asked eight-year-old Londoner Calder Christopher and futurist Chris Carbone to envision what our daily lives will look like in the future. Be sure to check back in 20 years to see how accurate their predictions were.



► With touch screen computers in use, stationary may look archaic in the not-so-distant future.

Transport

Christopher: Cars will fly and there will be a new way of getting around using a box you step on to that takes you places. Airplanes will be able to go into outer space.

Carbone: People will link their cars to rapid transit systems, where cars travel together at an automated speed.

Jobs

Christopher: Spaceships will fly people to outer space where they work. Aliens will smell new food to see if they're edible for humans.

Carbone: New jobs will exist in nano- and nanotechnology, areas that study how the brain interacts with things like computer devices and pharmaceuticals.

Communications

Christopher: There will be a phone that shows the person's face when someone wants to chat with them.

Carbone: Whoever you want to talk to will be instantly available. Youngsters will want to be always connected to their network, primarily using smartphones.

Housing

Christopher: People will live in buildings that look like big temples — one section of the temple for each family.

Carbone: People will still live in the types of houses you see today, but they'll use less electricity and water. Every home will harvest its own energy as well.

Schools

Christopher: Schools will look the same on the outside as today, but there will be more stuff inside the buildings. Everyone will have an iPad. It will be cool!

Carbone: Children will have a personalized digital learning record that will follow them throughout their education.

Best innovations

Christopher: There will be a gadget that you'll tell, "clean my room" and he'll do it. Police will have robots that catch bad guys.

Carbone: Biometrics will be used as payment. You'll just go to a machine that will scan your retina or fingerprint. Cash machines will become obsolete.

Mom, what's a typewriter?



DANIEL HOLLOWAY

METRO WORLD NEWS

► Our quest for faster, simpler and smaller ways of doing things will force many of our everyday items the way of the dodo ► Top 5 list of what's on the way out



CASH

Even vending machines take credit cards now. When you don't need coins to buy a Coke while you wait for an oil change, what's the point?



DICTIONARIES

Dictionaries are really heavy. Dictionary.com is not.



WATCHES

Everybody has a cellphone. Every cellphone has a clock on it. Duh.



BOOKS

Remember books? They were those things that people used to read before the iPad appeared. They took up space and were highly flammable.



FILM

And for those who insist on using a camera that you can't also make an outgoing call from, film is a thing of the past.

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Author celebrates Canadian cuisine

► Feasting and Fasting gives readers a taste of what our ancestors' ate and drank ► Stories and recipes show how special occasions were observed in the 18th century

The importance of celebrations throughout Canada's history was marked Monday night when Dorothy Duncan, author of several books on the country's culinary heritage, was honoured.

The event at Toronto's Fort York National Historic Site was held to launch the culinary historian's latest book, *Feasting and Fasting: Canada's Heritage Celebrations*.

The book is an introduction to the foods and beverages that were a central part of our ancestors' celebrations.

It begins with the new year and takes readers through each calendar month. There are stories and recipes for everything from Chinese New Year to Lent and the significance of maple syrup as the harbinger of spring.

Duncan traces the country's culinary heritage back

"Hopefully this book will make readers think about their own traditions, their own family and the things that are and were important to them."

DOROTHY DUNCAN, AUTHOR

to the 18th century when people marked Christmas, or another type of celebration, that brought family and friends together.

"The setting aside of time and the gifts of food made out of love with their own hands was paramount to our ancestors, some of whom had come from far away to colonize Canada," she said in an interview ahead of the launch.

Duncan found in her research, for example, that it was common for weddings to be held to coincide with the festive season.

"Nowadays we focus on June weddings, but in the early days, many were performed at Christmas because the families would all be gathered together," she says. "It was a convenient time to have them all around you."

Duncan, who worked as a culinary historian for Black Creek Pioneer Village in Toronto as well as the Toronto Historical Board, has spent many years collecting data for the book.

She is dedicated to working with organizations across Canada and around the world to ensure that this country's culinary history is recognized, researched and recorded.

Duncan always asks people how they are going to celebrate a special occasion and what they are going to

Feasting and Fasting



Canada's Heritage Celebrations

Dorothy Duncan

have on the table.

"They always talk about the things of the past such as, 'We are going to have the pudding my Aunt Sarah made' or, 'We are going to have the turkey stuffed just like my grandmother did,'" Duncan says.

"Most important, however, is that these days with most people 'eating on the fly' we take a great deal more care during days of celebration because we remember how important they are and it touches both our hearts and minds," she adds.

Duncan also wrote *Canadians at Table*, which garnered a culinary book Gold Award in 2007 from *Cuisine Canada* and the University of Guelph.

In 2003, Dundurn Press released her book, *Nothing More Comforting*.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sinful lamb a perfect holiday dish

CONTRIBUTED

Noisettes of lamb with port

Serve saucy lamb loin dish to special guests at your next winter dinner.

Ingredients:

- 30 ml (2 tbsp) olive oil
- 8 noisettes of lamb or 4 lamb leg steaks

Sauce:

- 30 to 45 ml (2 to 3 tbsp) port wine
- 125 g (4 oz) frozen black currants
- 10 to 15 ml (2 to 3 tsp) sugar
- 75 g (2 1/2 oz) extra creamy blue cheese, crumbled



► This recipe is sure to impress.

Preparation:

- 1 In a large frying pan, heat oil; fry lamb for 2 to 3 minutes each side or according to taste. Remove from pan and keep warm.
- 2 Reduce heat and add port to pan juices with
- 3 black currants and sugar.
- 4 Cook for 2 to 3 minutes until syrupy.
- 5 Stir in cheese, allowing it to melt in the heat of the sauce, and serve over lamb. Makes 4 servings.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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metr

Fantastic new species discovered

Scientists buzzing about research potential of shape-shifting marvel • The creature is not yet available to the media

Working hard

Do you know what a researcher contracted by the federal government is doing? Weather Bureau was collecting materials for a computer when she noticed the 22-inch creature dart between bushes.

returning to it's original shape at will. Scientists are predicting that the animal's genetic makeup will lead to exciting breakthroughs in a multitude of fields ranging from cancer treatment to materials engineering.

News worth sharing

Honey bees on the decline. your hair

In space, saving water is job No. 1

- Every drop of water aboard the International Space Station is precious
 ► So astronauts go to the extreme ► They drink recycled water from urine

Don Pettit doesn't mind drinking his own urine — or his sweat, for that matter. Pettit is far from insane. As an astronaut, he has no choice but to drink all available fluids. Welcome to extreme water recycling.

"You make water inside your body, through your breath and your sweat," explains Pettit, a veteran NASA astronaut who has lived on the International Space Station for six months. "On the ISS you capture all of that water and recycle it."

Astronauts are each allowed only 3.5 liters of water per day — for hygiene and food combined. They wash themselves using

wet wipes, and so they consume 92 per cent less water on hygiene than Earth-dwellers.

Recently the ISS cut its need for water supplies by 65 per cent after installing a state-of-the-art water-recycling machine. "It captures your breath, sweat and water from damp cloths and turns it into water," says Pettit. There's also a urine processor, which turns 80 per cent of urine into drinkable water.

Earth-dwellers may follow suit. One study shows that 75 to 85 per cent of people in Western European countries would consider using urine-diversion toilets, which allow urine to be recycled. ● METRO



► Don Pettit recycling water on the International Space Station.

ECO-PAPER NOT EQUAL

Queen of Green

LINDSAY COULTER

SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO
 QUEENOFGREEN@METRONEWS.CA
 DAVIDSUZUKI.ORG/BLOGS/
 QUEEN-OF-GREEN



Question: I was shopping at Costco and found two brands of what claimed to be 100 per cent recycled toilet paper. One eco-labelled brand was much more expensive than the bigger name brand. Are all 100 per cent recycled paper products considered equal?

Sacha, Vancouver

made from the flyers or envelopes that you've recycled. The PCW content in paper products will vary from 10 to 100 per cent. Choose the highest!

The less desirable choice is made from pre-consumer waste, or the scraps left over after paper processing — trim from newspapers or printing overruns. But it's still a better choice than paper made from virgin pulp.

Another factor to consider is the bleaching process.

The "greenest" option is that labelled Processed Chlorine Free (PCF). This is a green logo found on paper products with a minimum of 30 per cent recycled paper content.

It's certified by the Chlorine Free Products Association, and the pulp comes from mills that do not use old growth forest or other virgin pulp. These paper products have not been bleached with chlorine-containing compounds.

The next time you shop for paper products, look for 100 per cent PCW recycled content and PCF. It's the greenest choice.



David
Suzuki
Foundation

You're correct in suspecting that not all recycled paper products — from toilet paper to office paper — are created equal. To make sense of paper labels, you should choose paper products that leave the most trees in the forest.

When a claim reads "100 per cent recycled," the recycled content can come from one of two sources. The best choice is toilet and other paper products made from 100 per cent post-consumer waste (PCW) because it is made from resources that have already been extracted, reused and kept out of the waste stream.

PCW refers to paper

Grey water a potential resource

In a world where water is becoming more scarce and precious, grey water — waste water from household uses like bathing and laundry — could have a potentially life-changing use.

Grey water is different to the more contaminated black water used in our toilets. In most households, grey water is mixed with black water in a single domestic sewage stream, thus wasting a potential resource. Water used in sinks and tubs can be diverted for irrigation or used to flush toilets.

A new report from the Pacific Institute underlines how grey water is so promising.

"It's a relatively inexpensive way to save water and energy," says Dr. Juliet Christian-Smith, the report's co-author. "Indeed, there are negative perceptions about grey water in terms of public health, but these can be minimized with thoughtful policy."

Other advantages of grey water were conserved water use for lower income families, and for women and children who often have to walk long distances to get water. ● METRO

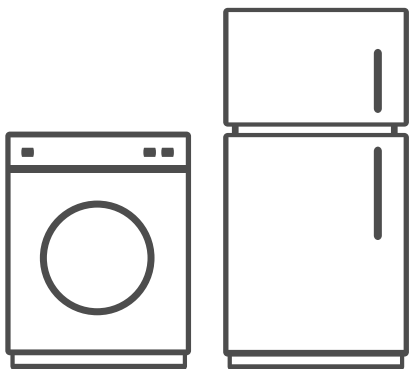
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Cecilia Ruben, sanitation researcher, Stockholm Environment Institute

How common are urine-diversion toilets?

These toilets are the future, because today's sanitation system has so many problems. There are two million such toilets in China alone.

Countries from Germany, South Africa and Vietnam have also joined the trend. In Sweden, some apartment complexes have urine-diversion toilets with a common compost for feces. ● METRO

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LIFE IS SWEET
FOR THIS
CHOCOLATIER

The beautiful little chocolate shop is tucked into a strip mall in one of Toronto's most exclusive neighbourhoods.

On the front door is a sign that reads, "I believe ... that you can keep going long after you think you can't."

The author of the quote is unknown, but it is the mantra of the owner, a woman as beautiful as the tasty chocolates she has sold for the past 25 years.

When you first meet Ingrid Laederach Steven you would never know the traumatic turning points that have shaped her life.

As a teen, her dream of becoming a professional singer was dashed when she damaged her vocal cords. She suffered a life

threatening heart attack on an airplane and went through seven miscarriages while trying to start a family.

"I kept persevering," Ingrid says. "I kept telling myself, it's going to happen, it's going to happen."

These were dark moments for Ingrid but she knew that life would get better. Then she opened up Swiss Master Chocolatier in Toronto.

Hollywood celebrities, presidents, royalty, a pope and even astronauts have all nibbled her amazing truffles and treats.

As you read Ingrid's story, the "I believe" sign on her front door takes on a new meaning. Remember the seven miscar-



► Ingrid Laederach Steven at Swiss Master Chocolatier.

\$7B People spend more than \$7 billion a year on chocolate.

riages? Ingrid finally gave birth to two beautiful daughters, and now she has a family of four grandchildren to spoil and love.

"Every day I realize I'm lucky. So lucky," she says.

Dark
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is good
for you

Dark chocolate contains antioxidants that can fight cancer and heart disease, and tryptophan, making it a natural antidepressant.

Georgetown University researchers found when breast cancer cells

were treated with chocolate flavonols, the cells stopped dividing.

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For December 10th

- 9 Chris Brown - Yeah 3x
- 8 Pink - Raise Your Glass
- 7 Down With Webster - Whoa Is Me
- 6 Rihanna ft Drake - What's My Name
- 5 Bruno Mars - Grenade
- 4 Fefe Dobson - Stuttering
- 3 Ke\$ha - We R Who We R
- 2 Katy Perry - Firework
- 1 Eminem - No Love

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Youth left behind in economic recovery: Report

► Youth unemployment an overall test of labour market strength ► By that measure, Canada has a long way to go

Canada's falling unemployment rate is hiding an unpleasant truth — tens of thousands are leaving the labour market in frustration, and none more so than young workers.

Last week's labour force survey for November presented a distorted hall-of-mirrors picture of employment — with the jobless rate falling to a two year low of 7.6 per cent on the strength of little job

creation.

For young workers in the 15 to 24-year-old category, the picture was even more distorted — the unemployment rate plummeted from 15 per cent to 13.6 per cent with virtually no new jobs added.

The mathematical disconnect comes about because Statistics Canada does not measure the number of workers against those who want jobs, but

Bulge of boomers

As governments consider raising the retirement age, young people can't break into the market because older workers are tying up jobs, according to Canadian Auto Workers economist Jim Stanford.

against those who are actively looking for work. There have been fewer of

► Ironically, Canadians 55 and over have done the best since the recession and are the only age group that has seen the participation rate rise in the past year.

► "There's an inter-generational imbalance

those.

Young people are leaving the labour force in

happening. You have a big bulge of baby boomers who have gotten into established positions entitled to three and four weeks vacation and young people can't find jobs," says economist Brian Bethune, of IHS Global Insight.

droves.

According to the agency, the youth participation

rate is the lowest in over a decade.

What's more, while the economy has created over 440,000 jobs since the recession there are 228,000 fewer young people employed.

"A lot of young people are throwing in the towel, saying forget it," said Brian Bethune, chief Canadian economist with IHS Global Insight.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Radio DJs decking the airwaves with holiday carols

It's not quite 8 a.m. but Erin Davis and Mike Cooper have already been awake for four hours.

Inside the CHFI-FM studio the chipper morning crew of Toronto's all-Christmas music station prepares to play today's "Feel Good Favourite" song request. Usually it's a happy, up-tempo tune, but Christmas brings out more sentimentality.

A few days earlier, a mother called the station to

say her teenage son was battling cancer and getting his last radiation treatment that day. She requested his favourite Christmas song, Bing Crosby's Mele Kalikimaka, as "a big happy hug to my son for crossing the finish line."

The station has been playing nothing but Christmas music since Nov. 21. And the hosts love it.

Besides a couple of stray Santa hats and a wreath on the wall, the studio doesn't

look particularly festive. The hosts, however, are wearing bright, Santa-red shirts. Davis sports some funky boots and a pair of jingle bell earrings.

"I've heard that little clinking all day and I thought somebody had glasses," says Cooper.

As Amy Grant croons It's The Most Wonderful Time of the Year, Davis sings off-air: "It's the most wonderful time for a beer."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



► CHFI-FM Morning Show co-hosts Erin Davis, far left, and Mike Cooper, far right.

Best effort not enough for Herd

► Team scores just 16 times over 9-game losing streak ► Power play pots two in loss to Sea Dogs



MATTHEW WUEST
@METRONWS.CA

The Halifax Mooseheads took their best shot at the country's top team yesterday, but it wasn't enough for them to snap out of their worst slump of the season.

Despite a season-high 45 shots on goal, the Moose-

heads fell 5-3 to the nationally top-ranked Saint John Sea Dogs at Harbour Station in New Brunswick.

Coupled with Saturday's 3-1 home loss to the third-place Quebec Remparts, the Mooseheads have now lost eight of their past nine games and haven't won in regulation since Nov. 19.

"We played extremely well on Saturday night against Quebec and we

played extremely well tonight against Saint John," said Mooseheads head coach Bobby Smith. "We had chances to be in much better shape ... The guys played really hard ... But Quebec and Saint John are first and third for a reason and our game was excellent."

The Mooseheads did end a recent power-play drought (1-for-23) by tally-



► Darcy Ashley

ing twice with the man advantage.

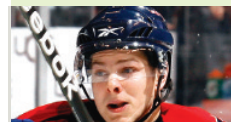
Smith said the power play was "really good" but that special teams remain "something we have to

keep working on."

Rookie winger Darcy Ashley had a goal and an assist. Trey Lewis and Luca Ciampini added singles and goalie Mathieu Corbeil made 30 saves.

The Mooseheads, 10-23-0-1, visit the Bathurst Titan on Wednesday at 7 p.m. Martin Frk is leaving before the game to try out for the Czech Republic's world junior team.

Sports in brief



Gordon back up to the pros

NHL. The Washington Capitals have recalled Porters Lake native Andrew Gordon. The 24-year-old is fourth in American Hockey League scoring with 16 goals and 15 assists for 31 points in 26 games with the Hershey Bears. He has played in three games with the Capitals over the past two seasons.

● METRO

More east coast CFL?

MONCTON. The CFL is in talks with the City of Moncton to bring more regular season games to Atlantic Canada. A deal could range from three to five years, according to CBC.ca.

● METRO

Newcomers have nice weekend for Rainmen in Saint John

Newcomers Kavon Jones and Josh Dollard made a good first impression for the Halifax Rainmen on the weekend.

Jones, a six-foot-seven forward, and Dollard, a six-foot-eight forward, scored 20 and 19 points, respectively, in Friday's 106-96 victory over the Saint John Mill Rats in New Brunswick.

Both are among the nine players under contract for 2011.

"Kavon did some really good things for us off the bench — he's a kid who's going to cause some mismatches because he's so

4,383 Average attendance for the first three games in Saint John Mill Rats' history.

skilled for a big guy," said Rainmen owner Andre Levingston. "Josh played really tough. He's going to be a problem (for other teams) on the boards."

The Rainmen play their first game at the Metro Centre in eight months when they host the Mill Rats in a pre-season tilt on Thursday at 7 p.m. There are no tickets remaining.

● MATTHEW WUEST

Tough. Fight



► Cole Harbour's T.J. Grant, bottom, fights Ricardo Almeida.

RYAN REMIOWZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Grant loses decision

During their welterweight bout at UFC 124 on Saturday in Montreal, T.J. Grant (16-5) was controlled and punished on the ground losing a 30-27 unanimous decision.

Quoted



"I took the whole summer off snow, basically since May. I definitely wish I had more on-snow under my belt. My goal here was top-10, so to make the finals was a bonus for sure."

DARTMOUTH HALF-PIPE RIDER SARAH CONRAD, THE TWO-TIME WINTER OLYMPIAN OPENED THE SNOWBOARD SEASON WITH AN EIGHTH-PLACE FINISH AT THE NOR-AM CUP IN COPPER, COLO., ON THE WEEKEND.

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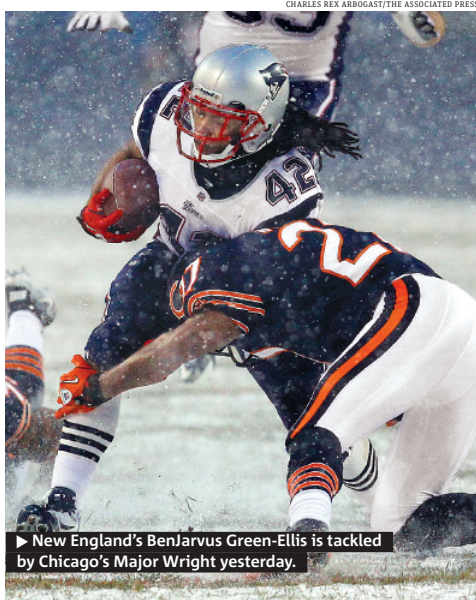
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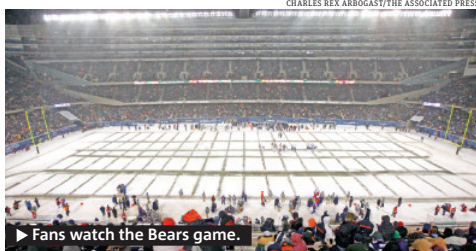
Class-Exclusive 7 Standard Air Bags

NFL under the weather

► Snow, wind, ice and rain took their toll on the league, with one game moved and attendance down



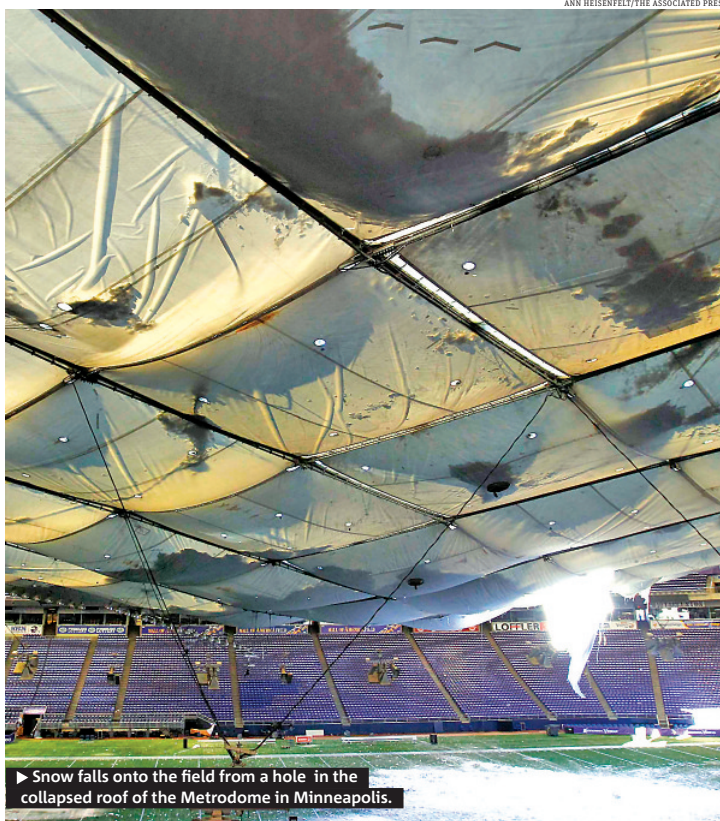
► New England's BenJarvus Green-Ellis is tackled by Chicago's Major Wright yesterday.



► Fans watch the Bears game.



► Buffalo's David Nelson catches a touchdown pass.



► Snow falls onto the field from a hole in the collapsed roof of the Metrodome in Minneapolis.

Snow problem

How yesterday's weather impacted the NFL:

- The New York Giants' game at Minnesota was postponed from yesterday to tonight and moved to Detroit, after a blizzard hit the Twin Cities, causing the Metrodome roof to collapse for the fourth time, but the first time since 1983.
- New England's game at Chicago's Soldier Field was threatened by whiteout conditions and the field constantly needed shovelling.
- Rain up and down the Eastern seaboard hurt attendance in Jacksonville, Landover, Md., and Orchard Park, N.Y., for early games.
- Ralph Wilson Stadium in Orchard Park was about one-third full for the kickoff of the Bills and Browns.
- The Buccaneers-Redskins game also was played before lots of empty seats, as were Raiders-Jaguars in Jacksonville, and Falcons-Panthers in Charlotte, N.C.
- At the New Jersey Meadowlands, the wet stuff wasn't frozen, but heavy rain poured down in the second quarter, just as Santonio Holmes was dropping a sure touchdown pass.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

St-Pierre running out of challengers

Georges St-Pierre has defended his UFC welterweight title five times, won his last eight fights and not lost a round in his last seven bouts.

He is close to cleaning out the 170-pound division in the UFC, leaving a line of top contenders in his wake.

On Saturday night at UFC 124, the 29-year-old from Montreal added to his legacy by defeating Josh Koscheck for a second time, laying a comprehensive five-round beating on the brash American before a record North American mixed martial arts crowd of 23,152 at the Bell Centre.

Just as he did to Koscheck's training partner Jon Fitch at UFC 87, he sent Koscheck home with a battered face and a broken dream.

"He picked Josh Koscheck apart," said UFC president Dana White. "I thought he fought a beautiful fight against a guy who I have a lot of respect for," he added.

But St-Pierre's biggest accomplishment at UFC 124 may have been to truly put mixed martial arts on the map in Canada.

Saturday's card, the UFC's fifth in Canada, drew unprecedented attention from domestic mainstream media. The



► Georges St-Pierre, right, lands a left to the chin of Josh Koscheck.

storyline of the classy champion and the trash-talking American attracted a lot of new eyes to the sport, as did White's calculating insistence that GSP was more famous worldwide than Wayne Gretzky

or any other Canadian athlete ever.

And UFC 124 set the stage for the UFC's foray into Toronto — set for April 30 at the Rogers Centre. St-Pierre said he's up for fighting there, if need-

"My game doesn't rely on chance. I don't gamble when I fight. I try to put all the odds on my side."

GEORGES ST-PIERRE

ed by the UFC.

Jake Shields is next up for St-Pierre. After that, there's a Help Wanted sign for welterweight contenders.

A super-fight with middleweight champion Anderson Silva is a possibility, although White offered little on that.

"I truly believe that my job is to give people the

fight that they want to see, the fight they want to pay for. We'll see what happens."

Such a fight would have long-lasting ramifications. St-Pierre says he would have to manage the weight gain in moving to a 185-pound weight class from 170. And he says if he makes the move, it will be permanent so his body does not have to endure yo-yo weight changes.

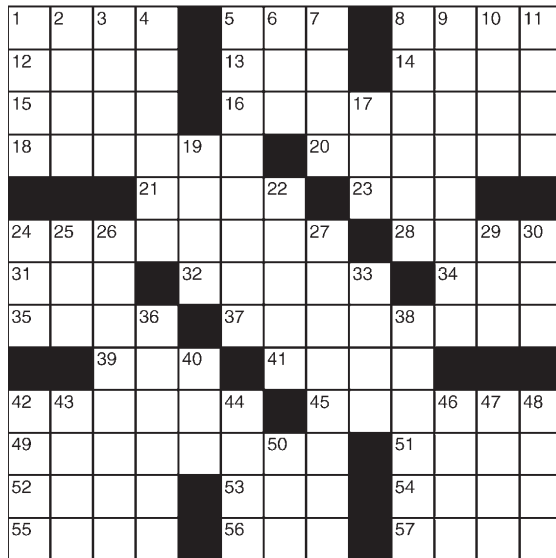
St-Pierre currently walks around at 189 to 190 pounds, cutting to 170 to fight. To move up to middleweight, he reckons he needs to increase his weight to at least 200.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crossword

Across

- 1 Reveille's opposite
5 Sindbad's bird
8 Reach by telephone
12 Urban disturbance
13 Altar affirmative
14 Lotion additive
15 Smell
16 MySpace alternative
18 Import duty
20 Tweaks
21 Auto-making pioneer
23 Individual
24 King, queen or jack
28 Pinnacle
31 Listener
32 Beatles' "— Fine"
34 Anger
35 Caprice
37 Hockey goalie's protection
39 Bill
41 Roman 1,052
42 In the same place (Lat.)
45 "Gilligan's —"
49 Lying prone
51 Stead
52 Woman in Germany
53 That woman
54 Paradise
55 Shri! bark
56 Turf
57 Cincinnati team
Down
1 Jog
2 Verdi opera
3 Indigent
4 Bitter discord

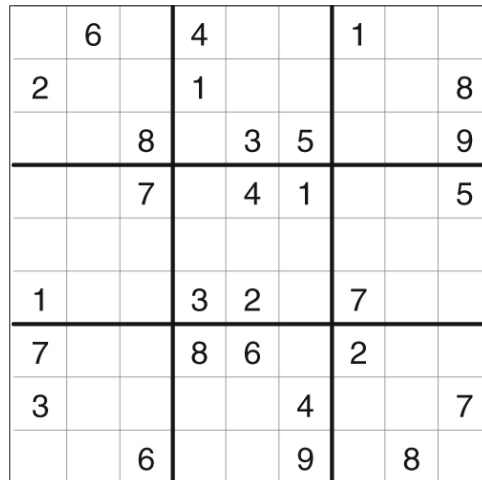


- 5 Rabble
6 Harem room
7 Imogene of old TV
8 Poolside hut
9 Baldness
10 Swag
11 Albanian money
17 Tokyo's old name
19 Points of convergence
22 Night vision?
24 A mere handful
25 "That feels so-o-o good"
26 Fault-finding
27 Just said no
29 Wife's address
30 "A mouse!"
33 Hawaiian garlands
36 Improvised
38 "King of the Road" singer Roger
40 Foundation
42 Uncertain
43 Exposed
44 Rolling stone's lack
46 Staffer
47 Require
48 Presses for payment
50 Personal question?

► Yesterday's answer



Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

► Yesterday's answer

4	6	9	3	7	5	1	2	8
7	8	3	2	1	4	6	5	9
5	1	2	9	8	6	3	7	4
3	2	7	4	6	8	5	9	1
1	5	4	7	3	9	8	6	2
6	9	8	1	5	2	4	3	7
2	3	6	8	4	7	9	1	5
9	4	1	5	2	3	7	8	6
8	7	5	6	9	1	2	4	3

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

To the best TTC Subway Operator and my best friend; You are my Batman, You are my Moose, Wort wort wort!

ASH

V, I can't wait for all the amazing things we have in our future together. You're a truly beautiful partner, inside and out, to go through life with. I love you Sweet-pea.

A

Hey baby giraffe. Hope you ace your exam today. We are almost done!! Winter break soon times!! I love you.

ONA

Jr, you know how much I miss you? I know how you are always there, but I just miss you so much, don't know if you will see this, but I just want to tell you that I love you, as always,

KATIE

Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 If there is something of a creative nature that needs to be finished you had better get on with it quickly. Be confident. Be adventurous. Take risks.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 You must get tough and let certain people know that the free ride is over. You have done more than enough for them, now they must do something for you.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Don't listen to those who say you should play safe. There may be an element of danger involved in what you are planning but what fun would life be if everything was a sure thing? Risk is what keeps you looking so young.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Follow your instincts today, no matter how illogical they may seem, you might just land yourself a winner. You've been too timid of late and it's time to take a few chances.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23 You may be finding it hard to put your thoughts into words but your communication skills will improve over the next few days. Make sure you know what's happening on the work front.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22 Something you have been struggling with for quite some time will come easier today, making you glad you did not give up on it when the going was tough. Better days are coming.

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 If you need inspiration as the week begins you are more likely to get it from other people than from inside your own head. Listen carefully to what friends and work colleagues have to tell you.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Others will say nice things about you today, which in turn will boost your confidence and make you determined to do well, both for them and for yourself.

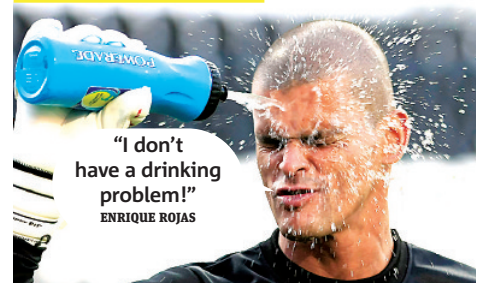
♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 There is no point feeling sorry for yourself just because a few things have gone wrong. Each day is a new beginning, remind yourself of that fact often today.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You are worrying about a mistake you made in the distant past. Why? What's done is done and cannot be undone. Live in the now.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 There may be a certain tension in the air as the new week begins but don't let it worry you. Others are well aware how much they depend on you so a parting of the ways is unlikely.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 You seem reluctant to give up a viewpoint that has gone out of fashion. Do you know something that no one else does, or are you too stubborn to change with the times? Whatever the reason give it some thought today. **SALLY BROMPTON**

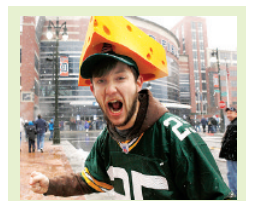
Caption contest



"I don't have a drinking problem!"
ENRIQUE ROJAS

WIN! You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.



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